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CHÂTEAUX OF THE LOIRE VALLEY

ROAD TRIPS

This edition written and researched by

Alexis Averbuck, Oliver Berry,
Jean-Bernard Carillet, Gregor Clark

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

Reviews

In the Destinations section:

All reviews are ordered in our authors' preference, starting with their most preferred option. Additionally:

Sights are arranged in the geographic order that we suggest you visit them and, within this order, by author preference.

Eating and Sleeping reviews are ordered by price range (budget, midrange, top end) and, within these ranges, by author preference.

Map Legend

Routes

- Trip Route
- Trip Detour
- Linked Trip
- Walk Route
- Tollway
- Freeway
- Primary
- Secondary
- Tertiary
- Lane
- Unsealed Road
- Plaza/Mall
- Steps
- Tunnel
- Pedestrian
- Overpass
- Walk Track/Path

Boundaries

- International
- State/Province
- Cliff
- Wall

Population

- Capital (National)
- Capital (State/Province)
- City/Large Town
- Town/Village

Transport

- Airport
- Cable Car/Funicular
- Parking
- Train/Railway
- Tram
- Underground Train Station

Trips

- Trip Numbers
- Trip Stop
- Walking tour
- Trip Detour

Route Markers

- E-road network
- National network

Hydrography

- River/Creek
- Intermittent River
- Swamp/Mangrove
- Canal
- Water
- Dry/Salt/Intermittent Lake
- Glacier

Areas

- Beach
- Cemetery (Christian)
- Cemetery (Other)
- Park
- Forest
- Urban Area
- Sportsground

Symbols In This Book

- Top Tips
- Link Your Trips
- Tips from Locals
- Trip Detour
- History & Culture
- Family
- Food & Drink
- Outdoors
- Essential Photo
- Walking Tour
- Eating
- Sleeping

- Sights
- Beaches
- Activities
- Courses
- Tours
- Festivals & Events
- Sleeping
- Eating
- Drinking
- Entertainment
- Shopping
- Information & Transport

These symbols and abbreviations give vital information for each listing:

- Telephone number
- Opening hours
- Parking
- Nonsmoking
- Air-conditioning
- Internet access
- Wi-fi access
- Swimming pool
- Vegetarian selection
- English-language menu
- Family-friendly
- Pet-friendly
- Bus
- Ferry
- Tram
- Train
- apt apartments
- d double rooms
- dm dorm beds
- q quad rooms
- r rooms
- s single rooms
- ste suites
- tr triple rooms
- tw twin rooms

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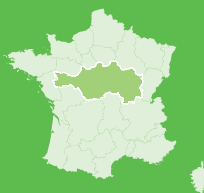
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Road Trips

1

Châteaux of the Loire 5 Days

Tour France's greatest châteaux, from austere medieval towers to exuberant royal palaces. (p19)

2

Caves & Cellars of the Loire 3 Days

Discover the Loire's subterranean world: wine cellars, cave dwellings and mushroom farms. (p29)

3

Medieval Burgundy 6 Days

Search for medieval treasures in Burgundy's churches, monasteries and fortified villages. (p40)

4

Route des Grands Crus 2 Days

Sample France's most venerable vintages on this wine lover's tour of Burgundy. (p47)

BEHIND THE SCENES

SEND US YOUR FEEDBACK

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Climate map data adapted from Peel MC, Finlayson BL & McMahon TA (2007) 'Updated World Map of the Köppen-Geiger Climate Classification', *Hydrology and Earth System Sciences*, 11, 163344.

Cover photographs: (front) Château de Chenonceau, David A Barnes/Alamy; (back) Château de Chambord, Viacheslav Lopatin/Shutterstock

THIS BOOK

This 1st edition of *Châteaux of the Loire Valley Road Trips* was researched and written by Alexis Averbuck, Oliver Berry, Jean-Bernard Carillet and Gregor Clark. This guidebook was produced by the following:

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Cover Researcher Brendan Dempsey

Thanks to Shahara Ahmed, Sasha Baskett, James Hardy, Campbell McKenzie, Darren O'Connell, Angela Tinson



OUR STORY

A beat-up old car, a few dollars in the pocket and a sense of adventure. In 1972 that's all Tony and Maureen Wheeler needed for the trip of a lifetime – across Europe and Asia overland to Australia. It took several months, and at the end – broke but inspired – they sat at their kitchen table writing and stapling together their first travel guide, *Across Asia on the Cheap*. Within a week they'd sold 1500 copies. Lonely Planet was born.

Today, Lonely Planet has offices in Melbourne, London and Oakland, with more than 600 staff and writers. We share Tony's belief that 'a great guidebook should do three things: inform, educate and amuse'.

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Jean-Bernard Carillet As a Paris-based (and Metz-born) journalist and photographer, I was delighted to re-discover my own turf while researching *France Trips 1*. I couldn't resist the temptation of exploring Burgundy and Beaujolais, if only to sample some of the best wines in the world. I confess a penchant for the Meursault whites (in Burgundy) and the Fleurie reds (in Beaujolais).



Gregor Clark My first epic French road trip came on Bastille Day at age 20. Nearly broke and hitchhiking towards my next fruit-picking job, I landed a 400km lift from a lost tourist and proceeded to spend the night winding through the fireworks-lit streets of every little village in Haute-Provence. To this day, I love nothing better than aimlessly wandering France's back roads in search of hidden villages and unexpected treasures. I contribute regularly to Lonely Planet's European and South American guidebooks.

Read more about Gregor at: lonelyplanet.com/members/gregorclark

OUR WRITERS



Alexis Averback first came to France when she was four and now visits every chance she gets. Whether browsing markets in the Dordogne, château-hopping in the Loire or careening through hill-top villages in Provence, she immerses herself in all things French. A travel writer for two decades, Alexis has lived in Antarctica for a year, crossed the Pacific by sailboat, and is also a painter – see her work at www.alexisaverback.com.

Read more about Alexis at: lonelyplanet.com/members/alexisaverback



Oliver Berry My first trip to France was a family holiday to Provence at the age of two, and I've been back many times since while working on Lonely Planet's bestselling *France* guide. I've covered nearly every corner of L'Hexagone on my travels, but I have an especially soft spot for Corsica and the Pyrenees. When not in France, I can usually be found wandering the beaches and clifftops of my home county, Cornwall. I'm also a regular contributor to many other websites, newspapers and magazines, including *Lonely Planet Traveller*. Check out my latest travels at www.oliverberry.com.

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Published by Lonely Planet Publications Pty Ltd

ABN 36 005 607 983

1st edition – June 2015

ISBN 978 1 74360 709 1

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10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Printed in China

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